

Key Facts

Hinduism: Traditionally naming a child has had great importance for Hindus. A **Namkara samskar** (naming ceremony) is held to recognise and celebrate the birth of the child and people express their hopes for its life in the future. Hindus believe that a person's personality can be influenced by a name so choosing a name which suggests desirable attributes is important for Hindus.



Sikhism: When a baby is born, Sikhs often give sweets to their neighbours and friends to celebrate the birth. The baby is taken to the **Gurdwara** (Sikh place or worship), and laid down on the floor in front of the **Guru Granth Sahib** (Sikh holy book). The book is opened at random and the first new verse on the left hand page is read. The letter which the verse begins with becomes the first letter of the baby's name.



Christianity: The family and relatives of the new-born child will gather into the church to celebrate its birth. Some churches celebrate by having their child christened whilst others have a naming ceremony or blessing. Christians baptise "In the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit".



Islam: When a baby is born, it is bathed and dressed. A male adult, father or some one close in the family, recites **the Adhan**, the ritual call for collective prayer, in the right ear. The first sound to reach a baby's ear is the declaration of Allah's greatness, so that the sound always echoes in his/her memory and settles in his soul.



RE

Year 6

Autumn

Birth and

Death



Vocabulary

Word	Definition
Beginnings	The earliest time at which something happens or exists.
Birth	The act or fact of being born.
Celebration	Anything that is planned or done in order to honour something.
Change	To become different by choice or because of something that happens in your life.
Death	The end of life or the end of the life of a particular individual.
Growth	The process of growing physically or growing in maturity.
Impermanence	Not permanent or lasting.
Life	The state of being that sets animals and plants apart from other things that are not alive.
Loss	The hurt caused by losing or having something taken away.
Memorial	A ceremony to honour or celebrate the life of a dead person or past event.
Potential	Able to come into being or a certain skill that may be developed.
Wishes	A desire or hope for something that may or may not come true.

Knowledge and Understanding:

Children will learn:

- To explore what it means to be alive or dead.
- To consider the beginnings and endings of life and the relationship between life and death.
- To know how birth and naming ceremonies introduce beliefs and values into the child's life.
- To know how birth ceremonies can express beliefs about the source of life.
- To reflect on the possibilities of life for a growing baby.
- To understand the ways some faith communities respond to loss.
- To introduce questions and express beliefs about what, if anything, happens after death.

Key skills and concepts:

Children will be able to:

Compare Birth and Death ceremonies in different religions.

Reflect on the possibilities of life.

Generate questions about and develop beliefs about what happens after death.

Key Questions

Why do humans have ceremonies associated with birth and death?

What do different communities believe about the relationship between life and death?

Key People